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dred works—are entirely forgotten, although a few of his devotional treatises are esteemed by bibliophiles for their engravings.¹ That they may not be entirely devoid of interest is exemplified by their “dédicaces” to various lofty personages, who protected Puget de la Serre, and by the incidental literary opinions which he expounds in them. His “*Tombeau des Délices du Monde*” (Reims, Moreau, 1631) contains, in the *Au Lecteur*, a eulogy of Jean Pierre Camus, Bishop of Belley, which has escaped the attention of the biographers of this pious and prolific novelist.² It also allows us to fix with precision Puget de la Serre’s birthdate, which is erroneously given as 1600 in biographical works. The two earliest in date, which speak at all about de la Serre, the *Grand Dictionnaire historique* of Moréri (vol. VIII) and Michaud’s *Biographie Universelle* (vol. 42) both state that he was born *about* 1600. Later compilers give his birthdate as exactly 1600. (*Biogr. Didot-Grande Enc.-Lalanne, Dict. Hist.*, etc.) Now Puget de la Serre states in the *Tombeau des Délices du Monde* (p. 14): *Il y a tantost trente sept ans que je suis au monde, et à peine puis je entendre le langage de la raison, je dy entendre, car de le parler, je begaye si fort, qu’ on diroit à m’ ouyr, que je ne fais que sortir du berceau.*” Since the *Privilege* of the book is dated July 16, 1630, Puget de la Serre must have written these words during the first six months of 1630. His birthdate can, therefore, be fixed in the year 1593.

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Guillaume congratulates himself on having driven a sharp bargain with Pathelin and soliloquizes thus: “Ils ne verront soleil ne lune, Les escus qui [qu’il] me baillera, De l’an, qui ne les m’embrera.” He obviously means that he will know how to put them in a safe place. The last phrase “if somebody doesn’t steal them from me” is apparently meant to conjure away any evil omen. The first phrase, if written after 1475, doubtless contains a pun, for Louis XI caused “les escus d’or au soleil” to be coined in that year. But the phrase is certainly proverbial and may have been introduced in the play long before 1475. In the response of Charles

¹ *L’entretien des bons esprits sur les vanitez du monde* (1629)—*Les douces pensées de la mort* (1627)—*La vierge mourante sur le mont Calvaire* (1628)—*Le Miroir qui ne flatte point* (1632)—*Les Merveilles de l’amour divin* (1632) and other works of the same nature. Cf. Brunet, *Man.*, III and *Suppl.* I.

² F. Boulas, *Un ami de St. François de Sales: Camus*, 1878; A. Bayer, *J. P. Camus und seine Romane*, 1906.

d'Ivry to the *Cent Ballades* (end of fourteenth century) we read: "Prince loial, se nul, soit jeune ou vieulx, Sert Fausseté, on le met en telz lieux Qu'il ne voie jamaiz solleil ne lune." (*Les Cent Ballades*, ed. by Gaston Raynaud, p, 218.) The ballads are full of proverbial expressions.

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NOTES ON THE AUTHORSHIP OF *The North Briton*

In my article "The Political Satires of Charles Churchill" (*Studies in Philology*, xvi, 4, October, 1919, pp. 303-333) I discussed briefly the work of John Wilkes and Charles Churchill in *The North Briton*. Since the publication of that article I have found in *The John Wilkes Correspondence with Charles Churchill, 1762-1764*, in the British Museum, Addit. mss. 30, 878, the following further information.

On Tuesday, July 27, 1762, Wilkes writes to Churchill from Winchester, "I admired exceedingly what I read last Saturday. Are you determined to have the palm of prose, as well as of poetry? . . . I have sent a strong *North Britain* for next Saturday, and have order'd Kearsley to bring you the proof. . . Will you undertake for Saturday sevensnight?"

On September 9, Wilkes writes to Churchill from Great George Street, telling him his plans for the attack upon Hogarth. "I shall attack him in hobbling-prose," he says, "you will I hope in smooth-pac'd verse."

On October 18, Wilkes asks Churchill if he approved last Saturday's *North Briton*, and adds, "*Pray take care of next Saturday* tho' I shall send a letter about the infamous story of the boy, which should be inserted: but I leave the whole to you." This refers to an attack made upon Wilkes in *The Auditor*, Number xvii, in which was quoted a libelous conversation between the demagogue and the young son of the Earl of Bute.

On November 2, Wilkes notes that *The North Briton* has "deviated into the primrose paths of down-right poetry" and says he will allow Churchill to continue in those paths till "Saturday sevensnight, when I shall bring him back to the dull hobbling road of insipid prose."

Those passages indicate more definitely than those hitherto quoted the part played by Wilkes and by his collaborator in producing the greatest mouthpiece of the Opposition in 1762 and 1763.

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